

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A process for storing and updating control unit data, said process comprising the acts of:

reading, by a storing or updating system, the control unit data out of a data carrier; and

causing, by the storing or updating system, control unit data to be stored in the memory assigned to the control unit, wherein the process is carried out under control of a program-controlled microprocessor;

accessing, by the storing or updating system, vehicle characterizing data; and

reading out, by the storing or updating system, from a plurality of control unit data stored on the data carrier, control unit data for a vehicle indicated by the vehicle characterizing data or for its control units, for storing and/or updating,

wherein the data carrier has stored therein a storing and/or updating instruction for storing or updating sequence control in said microprocessor.

9. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 8, wherein the control unit data stored on the data carrier is encrypted, or the control unit data is protected against falsification.

10. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 9, wherein the storing or updating system

decrypts the control unit data read out of the data carrier, checks the integrity of control unit data readout of the data carrier, or causes an updating or replacement of control unit data when the decrypting is correct or when integrity is determined.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 8, wherein control unit data stored in a control unit include information characterizing their authenticity or version.

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 8, wherein the storing and/or updating of the control unit data is carried out only after a corresponding release by an authorization system under control of a vehicle manufacturer of the corresponding vehicle.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 8, wherein one of a vehicle identification number and data characterizing the control unit data of a corresponding vehicle are stored in a computer data bank.

14. (Withdrawn) A system for storing and/or updating control unit data, including a program code for sequence control or characteristic-diagram control of at least one control unit of a motor vehicle, which are stored in a memory assigned to the control unit, said system comprising:

interface means for reading the control unit data out of a data carrier; and a data processor which causes control unit data to be stored in the memory assigned to the control unit, wherein,

the data processor is coupled in data communication with the interface means for causing it to read selected control unit data from said data carrier and transmit said control unit data to said data processor; and

the data processor is also coupled in data communication with said control unit via a data bus system in said vehicle, and communicates said control unit data to said control unit via said data bus system in accordance with instructions read from said data carrier, for storing and/or updating sequence control in said data processor.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program product which can be loaded directly into internal memory of a storing or updating system, including a digital computer, wherein said program product has program sections for implementing a process according to Claim 8, when the product is running on the storing or updating system.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of inputting control unit data into a control unit in a vehicle, said method comprising the acts of:

reading, by a reader unit of a system on-board of the vehicle, the control unit data out of a data carrier;

communicating said control unit data to said control unit via said data bus; and

storing said control unit data in a memory associated with said control unit, wherein the control unit data includes program code for sequence control or characteristic diagram control of the control unit.

wherein said carrier contains control unit data applicable to a plurality of vehicles, and said act of reading is controlled by a microprocessor which reads vehicle characterizing information from a memory, and causes said reader unit to read from said carrier only control unit data that are applicable to particular vehicle control units.

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said on board system comprises one of a vehicle navigation system, an audio system and a video system.

18. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said carrier comprises one of a CD-ROM, a DVD, a compact disk, a holographic data memory, a fixed disk, a solid state memory, a flash memory, a chip card and an EE-PROM.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 16 ~~19~~, wherein said characterizing information is stored in a memory maintained by a manufacturer of the vehicle.

Claims 21-25 (Canceled)

26. (New) The process of claim 8, wherein the vehicle characterizing data characterizes a particular vehicle or vehicle type.

27. (New) The process of claim 8, wherein the control unit data is data related to a comfort feature, safety feature or performance feature.

28. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the vehicle characterizing data characterizes a particular vehicle or vehicle type.

29. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the control unit data is data related to a comfort feature, safety feature or performance feature.

30. (New) A method of inputting control unit data into a control unit in a vehicle, said method comprising the acts of:

receiving, by a reader unit of a system on-board of the vehicle, a data carrier, wherein the data carrier includes control unit data applicable to a plurality of vehicles and storing or updating instructions for controlling storing or updating of a control unit by a microprocessor;

reading, by the reader unit, the storing or updating instructions and control unit data applicable to one of the plurality of vehicles; and

storing, by the microprocessor based on the storing instructions, the control unit data in a memory of the control unit, or updating, by the

microprocessor based on the updating instructions, the control unit data in the memory of the control unit.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the data carrier also includes navigation data.

32. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising the act of:

accessing, by the microprocessor, vehicle data characterizing the vehicle or a type of the vehicle, wherein the control unit data applicable to one of the plurality of vehicles is selected for reading based on the accessed vehicle data.